

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Department of Public Health Plans Pandemic Influenza Summit III

**San Bernardino** – The San Bernardino County Department of Public Health Preparedness and Response Program is planning a two-day Pandemic Influenza Summit to be held Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, and Tuesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The goal of the Summit is to increase pandemic influenza planning, preparedness, and response capacity, in collaboration with public and private planning partners throughout San Bernardino County and Southern California. The Summit will include sharing best practices, sharing lessons learned from the 2009 H1N1 Pandemic and planning for healthcare surge capacity. The Summit will be hosted at the Diocese of San Bernardino in the city of San Bernardino.

An influenza pandemic is a global disease outbreak that occurs when an influenza virus that had not previously infected humans easily spreads person to person. Most recently the world experienced the 2009 H1N1 Pandemic Influenza which caused over 1 million H1N1 influenza cases in the United States.

On Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011, the Summit will focus on healthcare surge capacity planning and the need for establishing alternate care sites. On Tuesday, July 12, 2011, the Summit will highlight planning for Points of Dispensing sites (POD) and showcase a mobile POD trailer through an interactive operational presentation. Mobile POD trailers are being deployed to designated locations throughout San Bernardino County and would support Points of Dispensing where mass prophylaxis would be provided during a pandemic influenza outbreak, or other public health emergency, such as bioterrorism.

For more information on the Pandemic Influenza Summit, please contact Matt Baca at the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health Preparedness and Response Program at (909) 252-4406. To register for the Summit, visit [www.sbcounty.gov/prp](http://www.sbcounty.gov/prp).

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